

Mount Rainier National Park

Nisqually to Paradise Road Construction Update



Wayside Notes

The historic Nisqually to Paradise Road is the most common entry to Mount Rainier National Park. Like most roads that you travel, it too, requires maintenance and periodic repairs. Due to adverse winter weather road work must occur during the busy summer season.

For the remainder of the year the majority of work will occur between Longmire and Paradise.

The road continually endures impacts from thousands of cars, buses, and RVs. It sustains damage from freezing, thawing, and rain. The road is also impacted by fallen trees and river erosion.

Improvements to the road will preserve its integrity as a popular and historic scenic drive and provide continued safe access for years to come.

Just the Facts:

"...Eugene Ricksecker, the engineer who, between 1903 and 1910, surveyed and oversaw the construction of the original road to Paradise... Ricksecker's achievement of constructing the road to Paradise represents not only an engineering feat of the highest order, but also reveals an almost artistic sensitivity to the natural features of the landscape - the road was built to compliment the scenic value of its awesome setting."

-Excerpt from: *A Traveler's Companion to Mount Rainier National Park* by Robert Steelquist

What to Expect

- **Work** this week will be concentrated at roadside utility vaults and may involve some temporary lane closures. *Expect flaggers and delays.*
- **Power outages** may occur at Longmire and Paradise weekdays.
- **Know Before You Go.** Expect delays during daylight hours, Monday through Friday. *Currently no work is scheduled for Saturday or Sunday.*
- **Be Prepared.** Total construction delays should not exceed 30 minutes between Longmire and Paradise.
- **No Idling.** Please be considerate of the air quality and turn off your vehicle when stopped at construction.
- **Plan Ahead.** Restroom facilities are located at Kautz Creek, Longmire, Narada Falls, and Paradise.

For more information go to:

<http://www.nps.gov/mora/parkmgmt/nisqually-paradise-road.htm>

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